

SONOMA BAYLANDS WETLAND DEMONSTRATION PROJECT CALIFORNIA

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 6th District, Rep. Lynn Woolsey; 9th District, Rep. Barbara Lee

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Sonoma Baylands project restored tidal salt marsh habitat on a 348-acre diked hayfield on the northern shoreline of San Pablo Bay. Dredged material was used to accelerate the wetland restoration process. The project included new peripheral and interior levees, interior peninsulas, and flashboard weirs, allowing the hydraulic placement of dredged material within the restoration area. In a pilot unit portion of the site, 235,000 cubic yards of maintenance-dredged material from the federal Petaluma River "across-the-flats" navigation channel were used to partially restore ground elevation within the restoration area to the historic tidal marsh elevation. About 1.7 million cubic yards of suitable dredged material from the Oakland Harbor 42-foot deepening project was placed in the main unit of the restoration area. After the dredged material was consolidated, tidal action was reintroduced. The main unit was restored to tidal action in October 1996. The authorized project includes monitoring and, if necessary, remediation.

FISCAL YEAR 03 APPROPRIATION: \$0 [budgeted under Oakland Harbor Operation and Maintenance (O&M)]

<u>PRESENT STATUS</u>: Construction started June 1994. Site preparation was complete in September 1994. Placement of Petaluma River dredged material in the pilot unit began October 1994 and was completed in November 1994. Placement of material from the Oakland Harbor deepening project was completed on November 6, 1995 and the main unit was restored to tidal action on October 25, 1996. A notice was given to the local non-Federal sponsor (California State Coastal Conservancy) in a District letter dated 28 August 1998, informing them that the project was functionally complete.

<u>FUTURE EFFORTS</u>: Monitoring and remediation of the project's ecological features is ongoing with O&M funds, as well as funds from the local sponsor. The cost sharing is 75% Federal and 25% non-Federal.